

YUCCA HOUSE NATIONAL MONUMENT EXPANSION ACT

\_\_\_\_\_  
JANUARY 10, 2020.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State  
of the Union and ordered to be printed  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. GRIJALVA, from the Committee on Natural Resources,  
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 1492]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Natural Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 1492) to update the map of, and modify the maximum acreage available for inclusion in, the Yucca House National Monument, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Yucca House National Monument Expansion Act”.

**SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) NATIONAL MONUMENT.—The term “National Monument” means the Yucca House National Monument in Cortez, Colorado, established by Presidential Proclamation 1549.

(2) MAP.—The term “map” means the map entitled “Yucca House National Monument Proposed Boundary Addition”, numbered 318/105,085A, and dated February 27, 2019.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

**SEC. 3. YUCCA HOUSE NATIONAL MONUMENT LAND ACQUISITION.**

(a) ACQUISITION.—The Secretary may acquire by donation the approximately 160 acres of land and any interests in the land that is identified on the map.

(b) BOUNDARY.—On the acquisition of the land authorized under subsection (a), the Secretary shall adjust the boundaries of the National Monument to include the acquired land.

(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The land and any interests in land acquired under subsection (a) shall be administered as part of the National Monument.

## PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 1492 is to update the map of, and modify the maximum acreage available for inclusion in, the Yucca House National Monument.

## BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

The Yucca House National Monument, established in 1919 by President Woodrow Wilson, is one of the largest archeological sites in Southwest Colorado. The site dates to the Great Pueblo Period and was established as an important community center. The 33.6-acre national monument includes 600 rooms, 100 kivas (round, underground rooms), several towers, multiple plazas, and one great kiva.<sup>1</sup>

Visitors currently access the site via a permanent easement established in 1936 across the private property of what is now the Box Bar Ranch. The Box Bar Ranch is interested in reclaiming the permanent easement and utilizing it for other purposes. In order for this to occur, an alternate access route must be established. The proposed addition of approximately 160 acres of donated land would provide an opportunity to establish the alternate, permanent access across federal land. H.R. 1492 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to accept this donation of land and then requires the Secretary to adjust the boundaries of the National Monument to include the acquired land.

## COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R.1492 was introduced on March 4, 2019, by Representative Scott Tipton (R-CO). The bill was referred solely to the Committee on Natural Resources, and within the Committee to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands. On July 18, 2019, the Subcommittee held a hearing on the bill. On September 25, 2019, the Natural Resources Committee met to consider the bill. The Subcommittee was discharged by unanimous consent. Chair Raúl M. Grijalva (D-AZ) offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute, which was agreed to by unanimous consent. The bill, as amended, was adopted and ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

## HEARINGS

For the purposes of section 103(i) of H. Res. 6 of the 116th Congress—the following hearing was used to develop or consider H.R. 1492: legislative hearing by the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held on July 18, 2019.

## COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Natural Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

<sup>1</sup> See generally *Yucca House Visitor Guide*, NAT'L PARK SERV., [https://www.nps.gov/yuho/learn/historyculture/upload/yuhositebulletin\\_508.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/yuho/learn/historyculture/upload/yuhositebulletin_508.pdf) (last accessed Jan. 3, 2020).

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII AND CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET  
ACT

1. *Cost of Legislation and the Congressional Budget Act.* With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(2) and (3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and sections 308(a) and 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following estimate for the bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,  
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,  
*Washington, DC, October 8, 2019.*

Hon. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA,  
*Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 1492, the Yucca House National Monument Boundary Revision Act.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is David Hughes.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,  
*Director.*

Enclosure.

<b>H.R. 1492, Yucca House National Monument Boundary Revision Act</b>			
As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on September 25, 2019			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2024	2020-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	*
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 1492 would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire, by donation, approximately 160 acres of land to add to the existing Yucca House National Monument.

Using information from the NPS, CBO anticipates that the agency would accept the donated land and process the transfer in the first year following enactment. CBO estimates that the cost to process the real estate transaction and perform environmental inspections would not be significant. Any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is David Hughes. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

2. *General Performance Goals and Objectives.* As required by clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goals and objectives of this bill are to update the map of, and modify the maximum acreage available for inclusion in, the Yucca House National Monument.

EARMARK STATEMENT

This bill does not contain any Congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined under clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

UNFUNDED MANDATES REFORM ACT STATEMENT

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

This bill does not establish or reauthorize a program of the federal government known to be duplicative of another program.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL, OR TRIBAL LAW

Any preemptive effect of this bill over state, local, or tribal law is intended to be consistent with the bill's purposes and text and the Supremacy Clause of Article VI of the U.S. Constitution.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes to existing law.

SUPPLEMENTAL, MINORITY, ADDITIONAL, OR DISSENTING VIEWS

None.